

179th immortalized through artwork

This past UTA, after our morning Crisis Action Team (CAT) meeting during the Mobility Exercise MOBEX), I took a walk around the base to visit each of the deployment work centers. It was a beautiful sunny morning, and what I found happening at each stop was just as sunny! I couldn't have been more pleased. Our mobility teams were well organized and performing their function efficiently, utilizing teamwork, ingenuity and a positive attitude.

While everything appeared to be running smoothly, I'm sure lots of lessons were learned which will precipitate improvements and make our mobility process even better for our final practice in September and the inspection in October. I have no doubt we will demonstrate an exceptional level of readiness to the IG.

I'd like to thank everyone for the truly outstanding work they are doing to prepare for the inspection and also for the sacrifices you have all made to serve our state and nation during this past year. We've been as busy as I can remember and the response by everyone has been phenomenal. Unfortunately, I don't think it's going to let down for some time so we must do



Leadership Perspectives Col. Richard Green

everything in our power to limit the impact serving in the Guard will have on our families and employers. I can assure you wing leadership is doing everything it can to lighten the burden.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that soon a beautiful work of art will be unveiled, of which one of our own C-130's is the centerpiece. The painting was done by Harley Copic, an Air Force artist from Toledo who

has painted most, if not all, of Ohio's ANG aircraft and many others. He's one of the best, and his works are displayed in the Pentagon, the Smithsonian and many other prominent places. I had the pleasure of seeing this painting recently and it is absolutely beautiful, with the name of "Mansfield" proudly displayed on the tail. We hope to be able to hang this painting in our conference room soon and also offer prints.

In addition, many of you already know the wing was honored several months ago when the most recent National Guard Heritage Painting (Coronet Oak) was completed, which also highlights one of our aircraft and is currently hanging in our wing conference room. These official Air Force pieces of art will clearly document the prominent role the 179th Airlift Wing played in the airlift community long after all of us have passed and our unit assumes new roles on behalf of our state and nation.

Our unit is ready to serve when called because of the great work each of you is doing. The combination of good processes, teamwork and a positive attitude is a formula that will work every time...and, from what I have observed, it's working at the 179th.

Yom Kippur - A time to reflect and pray

By Chaplain Dave Shirley

This month there will be many tributes and memorial services to remind us of the terrible tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001. In the midst of our reflection and recovery the Jewish community around the world will celebrate their New Year observances called Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah is celebrated the first and second days of Tishri. It is a time of family gatherings, special meals and sweet tasting foods. Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the most solemn day of the Jewish year and is observed on the tenth day of

Tishri. It is a day of fasting, reflection and prayers. Rosh Hashanah celebrates Judaism's remarkable heritage, and it is a reaffirmation of God's mercy, glory and love. Americans of diverse backgrounds and beliefs receive inspiration from this practice of faith. The Jewish tradition holds that all humans sin, but that atonement, prayer and charity can avert God's decree. Each year Rosh Hashanah celebrates the creation of the world and is a time for reflection and self-evaluation. A week after Sept. 11, 2001 President George W. Bush said in a press release: "In a year in which we were stunned by humanity's capacity for cruelty and violence, we were astonished by humanity's

capacity for compassion and self-sacrifice. We have endured great loss. We have suffered great wrong. May this solemn period bring forth a deeper devotion to faith's noble ideals. During this time of renewal and recovery, may countless others join in praying for peace and for the growth of religious tolerance around the world. May this year's celebration bless all who participate as we heal from the wounds inflicted by the terrorist attacks. May God bring peace to all who mourn. May people of Jewish faith and heritage in this country and around the world be inscribed and sealed for a good year in the book of life. And may we be blessed with the strength and patience to pursue justice and defeat evil."